year for the construction of new hotels and for improvements by way of addition, alteration and renovation of the existing hotel properties and also for the purchase of different items e.g. hardware, machinery, spare-parts; carpets, furnitures, kitchen equipments, air-conditioning plants, etc., but there is no Quality Control Cell or Centralised Inventory Cell in ITDC so far; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what steps the management propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) and (b) ITDC purchases quality items of standard as per its procedure of purchase and procurements from firms of repute. These items are maintained unit-wise. Tests for quality control are undertaken through local laboratories etc. wherever necessary. ITDC does not consider it necessary to set up a Quality Control Cell or Centralised Inventory Cell.

Extension of Labour Laws to Sikkim

2034. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Central labour laws such as Industrial Disputes Act Inter-State Migrant Workers Act Minimum Wages Act and Factories Act have not been extended to Sikkim;

(b) if so, by when these Acts are likely to be extended there; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The Industrial Disputes Act and Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 have been extended to the state of Sikkim. The Factories Act, 1948 and Minimum Wages Act, 1948 have not been extended to the State of Sikkim.

(b) and (c) The State Government is of opinion that Acts already extended serve the purpose and they do not consider it desirable to extend any more Acts to the state of Sikkim.

Meeting of the Central Advisory Committee and the Tripartite Committee on Labour

2035. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 139 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th November, 1986 and state;

(a) what are the details of discussions held and the deliberations made at the meetings of the Central Advisory Committee and the Tripartite Committee on Labour held on the 3rd January, 1986 alongwith the decisions taken in the said meetings; and

(b) what follow-up action has been taken to implement the decisions taken at the above meetings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a) The Central Advisory Committee reviewed the activities of the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund. The Committee recommended, *inter alia*, that (1) the scheme of assistance to the group housing cooperative societies of beedi workers should be finalised early; (2) Welfare Commissioners should launch a drive to issue identity cards to beedi workers; (3) more housing schemes for beedi workers should be taken up with the assistance of State Governments; and (4) more scholarships should be awarded. The Committee also took note of the increased budget allotment for medicines for static and static-cum-mobile dispensaries. The Committee also approved some new welfare schemes, including a revised scheme of scholarship for the wards of beedi workers.

The Tripartite Committee reviewed the implementation of the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966. The Committee recommended that (i) the State Governments may be requested to translate rules under the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 in local language; (ii) the State Governments should extend the application of Payment of Wages Act, 1936 to beedi workers; and (iii) the State Governments should be requested to be firm in implementation of the Act. It was also suggested that the Welfare Commissioners should launch a drive for the issue of identity cards to beedi workers.

(b) The scheme for assistance to group housing societies is under finalisation. Welfare Commissioners have issued a large number of identity cards to beedi workers. Housing schemes for beedi workers have been taken up and more scholarships have been awarded in 1985-86 as compared to the previous years. Most of the welfare schemes approved by the Advisory Committee have been finalised and suitable orders have been issued by the Labour Ministry.

The State Governments have been requested to take suitable action on the basis of the recommendations of the Tripartite Committee.

Beedi workers' Unions

2036. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of registered trade unions of beedi workers in Allahabad region;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is proliferation of beedi workers' unions in the country and that a number of such unions are not of representative character;

(c) whether these unions are complying with the relevant rules and regulations; and

(d) if not, what steps Government propose to take to check proliferation of trade unions in beedi industry in the country so as to make them truely representative of beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) Information on the trade unions operating in the Beedi Industry which falls within the purview of the State Government, the appropriate authority under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and Trade Unions Act, 1926 is not maintained.

Location of LIC Headquarters at Hyderabad

2037. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had written to him on the 10th September, 1986 for locating the headquarters of the New South Central Zonal Office of the Life Insurance Corporation at Hyderabad;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the physical infrastructure for the office is readily available; and

(c) if so, what action the Central Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A letter dated 10th September, 1986, was received from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh regarding a proposal of the Life Insurance Corporation of India to open a new South-Central Zonal Office. The matter has been reviewed by LIC who have decided, keeping in view considerations of profitability and the need to give a better return to the policyholders, not to open the South-Central Zone for the time being. A reply has been sent to the Chief